



SIXTH AND MARKET STS.

226 ROOMS
EACH WITH PRIVATE BATH

THE ANNEX

E. BERKLEY MARTIN,
MANAGER.

Saint Louis, Nov. 1 1917

Darling Sweetheart:

I almost forgot to tell you a piece of important news - Mrs. Eddy said you were looking "younger, fresher and prettier" than she had ever seen you. We were in harmonious agreement in this verdict. I am confident that with further care of your health you will be so pretty & sweet that I will find myself unable to break away from you again. How I do wish that I could be with you now.



SIXTH AND MARKET STS.

226 ROOMS
EACH WITH PRIVATE BATH

THE ANNEX

E. BERKLEY MARTIN,
MANAGER.

Saint Louis, _____ 191 _____

You are not giving me
enough details about the little
dearies. Is Kirby talking any
more distinctly & is Mary any
sweeter? How I do miss
them and you.

you are my sweetheart.
You are my darling
you are my wife
you are my sweetheart-wife ^{mother}

I adore you
many kisses & hugs
your own
Kirby

RHODES S. BAKER, Dallas
Chairman

R. E. BURT, Houston
Vice Chairman

E. R. BROWN, Dallas
Treasurer

H. H. SIMMONS, Hillsboro
Vice Chairman

TEXAS WAR WORK COUNCIL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES
HEADQUARTERS: 611 SUMPTER BUILDING, DALLAS, TEXAS

NATIONAL WAR WORK
COUNCIL

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L. A. COULTER,
State Campaign Director.

November 1, 1917.

Mr. A. H. Whitford,
124 East 28th St.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Whitford:

Enclosed find clipping about Kirby Page,
Mr. Eddy's secretary I believe. I don't suppose
these articles will do any damage, but we ought to
know whether our own secretaries are trying to cut
us or not. Look into the matter please.

Yours sincerely,

L. A. Coulter
State Secretary.

*Send list of Dutch
Executives in 20
A A*

\$35,000,000 NATIONAL WAR WORK CAMPAIGN NOV. 11 - 19

TEXAS QUOTA \$400,000

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations
124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

St. Louis, Nov. 1, 1917.

My dearest Mother:

All continues to go well with me. I joined Mr. Eddy here, after a most profitable ten days in Kansas City, where the ~~International~~ National Convention of the Christian Church was in session and where I met many old friends. I enclose a copy of a letter to Alma which gives more details.

Ex-President Taft is presiding at the meeting tonight in the largest hall in the city where Mr. and Mrs. Eddy are both to speak. They leave tonight for Toledo. I shall probably leave tomorrow and go to Eureka College, one of our colleges in Illinois, and speak before the student body at the request of the President, and then join Mr. Eddy in Cincinnati on the 5th. We arrive in New York on the 7th and I am not sure what the program is after that time, but my letters should be sent to the same old address.

I do hope that all is going well with you and that you have come to a decision regarding your plans for the year. I do not forget you day by day. With much love,

Ever your boy

Lirby

Houston, Nov. 2, 1917. 8 P.M.

Sweetheart: The little lady, our own daughter is two months old today, and is just now sucking her fist and her big brother is waiting to go to bed.

I note what you say in your letter about conditions at Drake. I wonder if you would consider University church if they would consider your application, provided Bro. Mesbury did resign. You could fill the bill, and your blood is what is needed. I have absolute faith in

your ability and am willing to tackle any-
thing with you. Much of the detail work
of such a place could be filled by an
assistant. If such a place should
develop, who knows but what it may
be God's will that everything has
turned out as it has recently. We
shall at least be ready for any
leading or opportunity, and I believe
that with God's help you will be
equal to anything. much love to
you. Remember that I love you.
Even your own Alred.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
OF
CHINA

3 & 4 QUINSEN GARDENS, SHANGHAI
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"COMMITTEE SHANGHAI"
CODES: C. I. M., MISSIONS, WESTERN UNION

STUDENT DEPARTMENT

PROF. T. H. LEE, CHAIRMAN
D. W. KWO, NANKING
A. T. L. TSEN, WUCHANG
L. G. LEE, SOOCHOW
C. C. WANG, PEKING
C. H. WANG, PEKING
ARTHUR RUGH { SECRETARIES
E. A. TURNER }

November 6, 1917.

Mr. Kirby Page,
124 East 28th Street,
New York City.

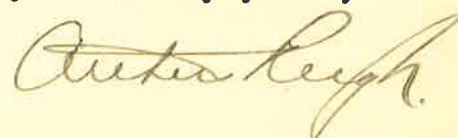
My dear Mr. Page,

Allow me to thank you heartily for putting me on your mailing list. I appreciated the letters you have sent and I have made good use of them.

I have just received a request from Mr. P. T. Liang, The Hayes, Swanick, Derbyshire, England, for a history of the Association work in China. I have written him that you are the author of the best history with which I am acquainted and that I hope you could furnish him a copy. He is in charge of the work among Chinese students in Great Britain and if you can furnish a copy it will be profitably used.

I hope that nothing will prevent your coming to China with Mr. Eddy. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Very cordially yours,



AR-M.

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

November 6, 1917.

My dearest Alma:

I arrived here this morning, a day ahead of Mr. Eddy. I reach Eureka at 7:10 Friday evening and remained until 3:00 Sunday afternoon, speaking twice in the college, once in the Court House and once in the Church. President Pritchard and Carl Wilhelm met me at the train and we went right up to the college chapel where I spoke before a joint meeting of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. On Saturday morning I spoke before about forty of the students in one of the class rooms, and that evening spoke to men only in the Court House, speaking much more freely regarding moral conditions in England and France. After talking for forty minutes the meeting was thrown open for questions, and for an hour we had a hot old time of it. I spoke with the utmost freeness and frankness and pretty nearly swept some of the good folks off their feet. The Presbyterian minister in particular took issue with me on several points and seemed to think I was defending Germany, just because I tried to look the facts squarely in the face and tell the truth. President Pritchard and most of the men present were quite sympathetic and told me they were glad to get the real facts about the situation. On Sunday morning I preached in the Christian Church to a full house and I have seldom had a more profitable hour. The Lord was with us in power. Taken altogether I am sure that the time was well spent and that some of those folks have an altogether different idea of war and what it involves. Carl is pretty nearly a thorough going pacifist himself. I stayed in the home of the President and had a most pleasant time indeed. I like Eureka very much. Brother Kindred's daughter Helen is a student there. She is a most attractive red-headed girl, with lots of pep.

I was in Cincinnati just part of one day and did not get a letter from you while there. Mr. Eddy is to arrive in the morning and will be here for a few hours before going on to New England. I presume I shall be here most of the time now until we start for China about the first of the year. I am going to room at the West Side Y M C A again, but my mail should be sent here. I will write more soon.

With much love and many kisses for all of you,

Ever your husband,

*I want a good picture of the
three of you for my
Christmas present.*

Lieby

EXEC. DEPT.
ROOM 501
RECEIVED
MEMO. for Mr. F.S. Brockman
from Mr. A.H. Whitford

NOV 8 1917

ENCL. _____

November 7, 1917.

ACK. _____

Attached you will find a letter from Coulter of Texas with a criticism concerning Eddy's secretary, that you will know best how to handle.

I understand from reports over the country that there is without doubt a disposition in certain communities to deliberately mis-report our speakers.

HP.

Houston, November 8-1917.

Dear Mother:

We may not be having any snow, but nevertheless, it is just a bit cool to get up in the mornings. Mother went to see Cleo last Friday morning and stayed until Sunday night, and I held the fort while she was away. Got along beautifully while she was away. in fact, got more work out of Johnnie and Wilfred than she does.

I suppose that Kirby is in New York by this time and will stay there for awhile.

Am enclosing a few pictures of the boy. Did I tell you Kirby gave me one of those little autographic Pocket Kodaks for my birthday? It only costs 3 cents to develop this size and if they are exceptionally good they can be enlarged for a small price. Also the films cost less, and I can make more ventures. Hope Perry's asthma is better or rather well by now -
With love, yours Alma.

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 8, 1917.

My dearest Mother:

I went out to Ridgewood Heights last night and had a most pleasant time indeed.. I slipped ^{up} on them and you may be sure they were surprised indeed. It was great fun to see so many old friends. They like my old friend Marvin Sansbury who is the new pastor and the church is growing right along. I am to preach for them on a week from Sunday and am looking forward to a profitable time. Would you believe it, they have had my picture enlarged and it now hangs in the church!

Mr. Eddy is speaking in the home of Mrs. Harriman, millionaire wife of the railway magnate, and expects to get a generous response from those present. He is to be in New England during the next few days but I shall remain in New York. It is a pleasure to be here again and to greet old friends and I am expecting to have a profitable time during the next few weeks. I am writing to Perry by this same mail.

You are quite mistaken about Alma not wanting to come to visit you again. She had a fine time indeed and likes the country very much. I do hope things are going well with you. I do not forget to pray for you daily. God bless you, dearie,

Yours lovingly,

Kirby

Nov. 9, 1917.

Dear old Thing:

The first object I saw this morning upon entering the office was an envelope addressed in your familiar handwriting. To say that I was glad to get it does not begin to express my feelings. I have thought of you often during the past weeks and you have not been out of my prayers for long at a time. I hope you received the letter I sent to you and Harold on Oct. 13th. In order to save rewriting the information contained therein and in order to make sure that you receive it, I am sending another copy under separate cover.

I am greatly interested in what you say about your future work. I have been having somewhat the same struggle in my own mind. I have boiled it down to two alternatives, viz., First, shall the Christian man with our convictions choose for the time being to give himself unsparing to relief work and by every means within his power seek to help the men in the army physically, mentally, morally and spiritually; or, second, shall he choose rather to begin the fundamental work of changing the attitude of Christians toward this outstanding violation of the Christian way of life? There is no doubt whatever that relief work is sorely needed and that it is thoroughly Christlike in every respect. On this point there can be no question. Furthermore, this kind of service is vastly easier to render at this time and will prove to be much more pleasant to perform and in all probability will produce more immediate and visible results. With very, very few exceptions Christian workers are choosing this means of serving the Kingdom in these days.

As for me personally, however, I have come to the conclusion that after the expiration of my time with GSE at the end of the China trip, I am going to attempt to find a nook somewhere in America and settle down at the infinitely more difficult task. Increasingly I am convinced that this fundamental work is incomparably more essential and necessary than relief work - because it is an unquestioned fact that relief work is necessary because this other work has not been done. To have some little share in destroying the seeds of war is to my mind more important than to aid in the relief of the suffering and sorrow which is the fruit of war. Then too, where there is one man that feels called to do the foundation work there are a thousand men who are eager to do the relief work. Furthermore, I believe that NOW is the time to begin hammering away on this subject, while the minds of millions of men and women are being centered upon it and while there is such an avalanche of contrary opinion being pressed upon the church people.

Personally, I believe there is too much easy going optimism abroad in the land to the effect that this is the war to end war and that after German militarism has been destroyed by force of arms we can depend upon a League to Enforce Peace to save the world from war. That feeling is quite universal here in the States now and everywhere ministers almost without exception are justifying the present war on this ground. This being true, as soon as the war is over there is going to be a tendency to avoid the real issues involved in war and to depend upon a

mechanism to insure permanent peace. In the days following the end of the war there are going to be so many problems of reconstruction that there will be a tendency to forget about the ethics of war and to settle down into the old conventional way of thinking in this connection.

At the present time there are tens of thousands of Christians who are perplexed about the whole problem and who are honestly seeking the truth. It is unfortunately true, however, that there are very few who care to openly express their opinions and who are willing to take the lead in furthering this cause. There is an ever increasing feeling of bitterness and contempt for the man who refuses to sanction or participate in this war against militarism and autocracy. It is certainly not going to be an easy thing to be outspoken in one's convictions and yet remain sane, controlled and sweet spirited through it all. After one has done his best I am not sure that he will be able to see any results to speak of. Indeed, on the face of it, he may be inclined to believe those who tell him that he is doing more harm than he is good. Yet the more I think about it, the more strongly am I convinced that in the long run the Kingdom will be best served in this way. So, as for me, I feel clearly led of Him to return here for the more unpleasant and difficult task of helping in some meager way to lay foundations upon which the Church of Jesus Christ may be able to building an abiding structure.

I have come to this conclusion with a clear recognition of the fact that there is going to be an increasing demand and need for men of experience to share in relief work in the war zone. I know that you are rendering and could continue to render a large service to the men over there, and yet I cannot refrain from expressing my opinion that you are more needed at home. I am sure that you will continue to pray for guidance at this point and that you will firmly expect to receive such guidance. Again and again and again the thought comes to me, If I can only find His will, nothing else really counts.

I shall await with eagerness that longer letter you promised and to hear your decision regarding the future. I note your customary feeling of humility in the mention of your speaking at Wendover. Would that I had more of this same spirit! I am so glad to hear that Harold is doing so well in his work. If I go to Hartford I shall certainly look up your friend. I would like very much indeed to talk with her. I may get up my nerve to pester her with a copy of my manuscript. I expect to see Gilbert Beaver within a few days. I have been absent in the west for some weeks, having had a profitable time indeed. I spoke at the Kansas City Central Y. M. C. A., at Eureka College and several other places. What I say is not received with vociferous applause.

With regard to GSE I am sorry to report that he seems to have swung back to where he was before and I am afraid he is going to publish his convictions in pamphlet form. We must continue to give ourselves to prayer that he and we may find the truth. Both he and Mrs. ~~XXXX~~ have been speaking with marvelous power all over the country and are undoubtedly doing great good. He is honestly seeking the light, but I am convinced that he is so wrapped up in the relief work and has so much at stake that he does not have a fair chance to think clearly and in an unprejudiced

way upon the whole subject. I would certainly be the last man in the world to cast reflections upon his motives and spirit. I only wish that I had one hundredth part of his devotion and consecration. And yet I believe with all my heart that upon this great fundamental issue he has not as yet found the truth. I make no claims to having found the whole truth and have not settled down compacently. I am still working at the question with all my might and know that I have only discovered a ray of light. You will join me, I know, in praying that with the passing days we may gain a clearer view of Him and His living truth.

The great \$35,000,000 campaign has been put on a basis of patriotism and is sweeping the country like wildfire. I predict that it will run well into the forty millions if not into the fifty's. It is gradually beginning to dawn upon the American people that there are not out for a holiday picnic but that this thing is going to cost them heavily in life and in money and in everything else before it is completed. The country as a whole is certainly back of the President in desiring to see the war vigorously prosecuted to a victorious termination. It is true, however, that there is an increasing sentiment against the war, one indication of which may be seen that Morris Hilquitt secured 140,000 votes for Mayor of New York on an out and out anti-war platform, running only a few hundred votes behind Mayor Mitchell. There is little question though that as soon as the real casualty lists begin to come in and as soon as the wounded begin to return, a wave of indignation and patriotism will sweep the country and will give the Government wholehearted backing.

Under separate cover I am writing to request that you send me a complete statement of the account and also an itemized statement from the bank of all receipts and expenditures since we landed in England. This latter is necessary because I do not have the bank book. They may object to giving it, but I hope you will insist upon it.

It now looks as though we will sail from Vancouver for China on January 17th, spending three and a half months in China and if conditions permit returning through Russia and England. Please give ~~my~~ my warmest regards to Harold and all the other fellows. You will be glad to know that Alma, Kirby, Jr., and little Mary are coming along in great shape. You just ought to see the Page family!

With sincere affection,

Ever yours,

Kirby

November 10, 1917.

Dear Kirby:

Enclosed you will find a memorandum from Whitford and clipping from Coulter. I would be glad to have you write me concerning what you actually did say. It may be well to scotch this thing, to the extent, at any rate, of letting Coulter have the facts.

Faithfully yours,

J. Brockman

Mr. Kirby Page,

Building.

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 10, 1917.

Sweetheart:

I really had to smile when I read your card of Nov. 2nd regarding the University Church. I never realized before how badly I had you fooled and just how mistaken was your idea of my ability. It is all very pleasing to my vanity but cold facts compel me to say that you have tremendously overestimated my ability. I could not begin to fill the bill at University Church, perhaps the most important single church in our brotherhood. I do not have the necessary training in the pastorate, speaking ability, maturity of thought, or depth of consecration to carry on successfully that great work. It is very nice indeed to have you express your confidence in me and I love you for it, but it is time that both of us came to earth and faced *my* the weaknesses and inabilities. Not for ten years, if ever, will I be able to qualify for such a church at University Church. No one has ever accused me of being too modest or backward about asserting my own claims, but I haven't the nerve to believe as you seem to in this matter. No, dearie, the thing for us to do is to begin modestly and not bite off more than we can chew in the beginning. Some church with two or three hundred members would offer us more opportunities than we could live up to. As you well know, I am willing to tackle anything under the sun, but I am coming increasingly to feel that humility is one of the great lacks in our lives. I am sure that I do not misunderstand the spirit in which you wrote and I am just as anxious as can be to find the place where we shall have the maximum opportunity. However, we must not overrate ourselves and then come down with a cold thud. We must remember that I am only two years out of college and that I have had very little actual pastoral work. We must set ourselves more resolutely to continued intercession that we may find His place for us. I found later that Mrs. Medbury told Brother Kindred that Brother Medbury was not going to leave the University Church any time soon.

I am quite concerned at your mention of headaches that are not caused by your eyes. Are you still suffering from the effects of Mary's coming? Have you seen the doctor as often as you should? Are you sure that you are taking as good care of yourself as is possible? Do write me at length about your physical condition - general health, eyes, hair, teeth, complexion, etc. You must be on your guard constantly. I shall await a long letter from you about yourself and the dear babies. God bless them and you.

Most affectionately your husband,

Kirby

Nov. 12, 1917.

My dear Mr. Coulter:

Your letter to Mr. Whitford, with the enclosed clipping with reference to a talk made while I was in Houston, has been referred to^{by} Mr. Brockman.

The headlines of the article make an incorrect statement. I did not say that American soldiers had been guilty of atrocious acts - I said that "again and again and again we have known of fiendish and atrocious acts by allied soldiers that were every bit as damnable as the conduct of the Germans."

As I have said to Mr. Brockman, there may be considerable question as to the advisability of making such a statement at this time, and I do not deny that I am open to censure, but there is no question as to the absolute truth of the statement. I have on numerous occasions talked with Mr. Eddy concerning the advisability of speaking one's convictions against war at this time, and of course you well know that he does not agree with me in this regard.

I sincerely trust that anything I may have said has not had an adverse effect upon the great campaign in your state. It goes without saying that I am vitally interested, as every Christian must be, in this campaign for funds with which to carry on the Christlike ministry on the other side.

Please remember me kindly to Mr. Paige, Mr. Scott, Herbert Crate and any other friends whom you may run across, and with sincere personal regard,

Very sincerely yours,

L. A. Coulter, Esq.,
611 Sumpter Building,
Dallas, Texas.

K P

Nov. 12, 1917.

Dear Mr. Brockman:

I have noted carefully the letter from Mr. Coulter and the clipping to which he refers. I enclose herewith a copy of the original newspaper article to which the foreign correspondent refers. This account of what I said is substantially correct. The sentence to which Mr. Bye took exception reads: "Again and again we have known of fiendish and atrocious acts by allied soldiers that were every bit as damnable as the conduct of the Germans. Of course, these stories do not pass the censor."

There may be considerable question as to the advisability of making such a statement at this time, but as to its absolute truth no unprejudiced man familiar with the actual conditions at the front can deny it. As you may know, Houston is my former home and I am well known there, my wife being there at the present time. I spoke in the church there of which I was formerly a member and under the circumstances talked more freely than I have done elsewhere. For once at least, the fault is not to be laid at the door of the newspaper reporter. I must of necessity assume full responsibility for the statement. I sincerely hope that it will not have the slightest adverse effect upon the War Work Campaign, in which I am, of course, vitally interested. I am writing Mr. Coulter, an old friend of mine, by this same mail as per the enclosed copy.

If you should think it worth while, I would be glad indeed to talk with you in person about this matter. I am only sorry that I have added to your already too numerous burdens.

Very sincerely yours,

F. S. Brockman, Esq.,
Building.

K P

P. S. I should have said that I have talked at length with Mr. Eddy regarding my present conditions. I also told him of the adverse criticism of my talk in Houston.

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 12, 1917

Pretty little Sweetheart:

I am terribly lonesome for you tonight. I miss you much more than I ever have before. Now I would like to hold you in my arms and kiss and caress you. Sometimes I think of you so strenuously that I almost imagine I can feel your warm kisses upon my lips and your dear arms around my neck. You mean everything to me and my love for you is deepening with the weeks. Often my imagination goes wandering and I picture the happy days when we shall be together with the little darlings. Happy days! What plans we will make for Kirby and Mary! The Lord has been wonderfully kind to me. I do pray that our love for Him may ever be growing.

A thousand of my kisses for you and the dearies. I adore you!

your own

Kirby

a fraction over $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons for my share, which I thought did fairly well. Had a few little debts to pay - Between two & three hundred dollars that's all. Anyway I am Seven Hundred to the good, that means seven hundred clear.

As to what I am going to do with it - Rest easy on that.

For I am not going to do anything, until I know who's who & why on this war deal.

I may go back to the Navy alright, and again I may not - Will not for 5 or 6 weeks yet anyway I don't think. For it now looks as next draft of any size will be Feb 15th

Logan, Okla.
Nov 18-17.

My Dear Brother:-

Your good letter received lately and appreciated.

Just about wound up with farming for the year, and believe me I am some glad.

Have started painting the house for the folks, and that is my last job I have in view for a few weeks.

Next I will have a long siege with the Hon. Dentist as soon as I can get to it.

Dust got to bothering me so bad, I sold my grain in the field - Broom corn I held until I got 300⁰⁰ per ton then I turned it loose. Had just

Mr. Murry both well - Although
He is stiff in the legs
and ~~cant~~ get around very well.
Calf I have kicked him - one on
each leg. He had Broom-corn
amounting \$285⁰⁰ or thereabout.

Sold 75⁰⁰ worth of calves
lately too.

Am not feeling extra well
tonight - Also am lonesome
for my girl - although I haven't
any - So am going to stop
for now. Will try to keep
you posted - Don't write
too much about War - It just
worries Mother -

God Bless you old fellow,
Your Bro,
P. L.

or Thereabout. Will not invest
in land myself now until
I know more about a definite
future ahead of me.

If I return to Navy or
am drafted I have to go, Why
then I would be willing to loan
what I have to you. 500⁰⁰ any way

So just rest assured its
in the Bank & Safe - So sit
steady until I look into some
of these matters & decide for sure
what I think is best.

I thank you for your advice
& interest shown - Its appreciated
Having some real winter
now, although have been having
some good weather also. Mother and

Nov. 23, 1917.

My dear Galen:

I have not answered your letter of the 9th sooner because I hardly know what to say in answer to your question about service abroad. I think I cannot do better than to express my own feeling in the matter and in order to save time I enclose a confidential letter to my wife, which states at length my thought in this connection.

There are undoubtedly great opportunities for service abroad. This must be so because of the amount of sin in evidence. The moral conditions are bad beyond description and the men sorely need a steadying hand. About the value of the work of the Y. M. C. A. over there there can be no question whatever. The only question in my mind is to whether after all it is the really important thing that ought to be done these days and whether there are not more men eager to do that work than the foundation laying preventive work which must be done if there is to be permanent progress. As for myself, I feel that the home work is vastly more important. If you could manage to get over for a period of say six months, I think from your own standpoint it would be worth while and that the good you would be able to do would justify you in making the trip. I am not sure whether they take men for less than a year, but if you are interested I could find out. My own personal feeling is set forth in the enclosed letter. You must be guided by the Holy Spirit in this matter - there is no other safe guide.

Have you given up thought of postgraduate work? Our brotherhood is sorely in need of a more highly educated ministry and I cannot but hope that you will find it possible to get into the university before very much longer.

We expect to sail from Vancouver on January 17th. I am not sure of the route to the coast, but it will probably be by way of Houston and San Francisco. I would greatly enjoy a visit with you and will keep you in touch with my plans. I shall be greatly interested in knowing your decision. I am not forgetting to pray for you, and I hope you are remember us. Alma would join in best wishes if she were here.

Faternally yours,

Nov. 23, 1917.

Alma Dear:

During the weeks that have passed since we last talked about our work for the future, I have been thinking and praying about the whole question a good deal. The time has now come when we must come to at least a tentative decision, since I am sailing within a few weeks and we ought to know in a general way at least what the plans are for next year. The China campaign proper will end about the middle of May, at which time I will have completed my contract with Mr. Eddy. At present he plans to go from China to Russia and then to France. I am not clear as to whether he wants me to accompany him to Russia and France or whether I am to return direct from China. Of course, I would very much like to make the Russian trip, and I think the chances are in favor of it, since he is thinking of writing a book on Russia.

Now the question is, what are we going to do after the middle of May or the middle of September as the case may be? I take it that we are agreed that whatever choice we make must be made in view of two assumptions; first, our only desire is to find the will of God in the matter; second, we must take into account the sum total contribution of our lives, and not just the next few years only. In view of all this, I am faced with six alternatives, which I now give, in inverse order of their seeming importance to us:

(1) The first proposition is to continue on with Mr. Eddy for another period of years. I believe this would be possible if we so desired it. I repeat what I have often said that I do not know of any experience I would rather have had than the privilege of being with him these two years. It has been a wonderful opportunity beyond all our appreciation, and Mr. Eddy has been more than kind and generous on every occasion, and I can never hope to repay him. But the more I think about it, the more I am convinced that a longer period of service with him would not offer the largest opportunity of service or even the best possible preparation for future service. I think we are agreed that two years of this sort of life is sufficient.

(2) To take up work as a state student secretary or to be attached to "Dad" Elliott's staff of student workers. I am not really considering this seriously since "Dad" himself so frankly said that he did not consider the student secretaryship a life work. I think we ought to think only in terms of life work now.

(3) To remain in Russia or France for war work during the duration of the war - perhaps one year and perhaps five. One important item seems to make this an impossibility, namely, the

stifling of my conscience or convictions on the question of the ethics of war. I do not see how I could possibly be justified in doing this. I was content to keep quiet during the time I was there before, but to deliberately do this for the duration of the war would seem treachery to all that I hold to be fundamental in Christianity. There is a further consideration that makes me think I ought not to again take up war work, namely, the fact that as highly Christlike and as greatly needed is this work with the soldiers, it is only rescue or relief work and does not deal with the underlying causes of all this horror. Then too there are going to be a sufficient number of men eager to do this work who do not seem to realize the importance of laying foundations which will prevent such a disaster ever again troubling the world. I am quite sure that the really great contribution to be made in these days is not simply the dealing with the fruits of war. This laying of foundations and seeking to do the preventive work cannot be carried on in connection with the army. Therefore, as highly as I regard the work of the Association with the troops, as deeply as it is needed and as thoroughly Christian it is, I do not feel called to enter upon it, at the cost of my convictions and the prevention of the more fundamental work.

(4) The entering upon a life work in China. In this connection I still feel as when we talked last. The conviction is growing upon me that Christianity is going to succeed or fail in evangelizing the world just in proportion as it succeeds or fails to evangelize America. And when I see how easily the American churches have been swept off their feet by a false patriotism and how they have failed to stand for the definitely Christian thing, not only with reference to war, I am led to believe that nowhere on earth is there greater need than right at our own doors. I believe that the experience of these past two years can be utilized to greater advantage here than anywhere else. As I walk up down Broadway and Fifth Avenue and as I think about how little Jesus Christ really means to most people, I am led to reconsecrate myself to His service. And the same thing is true of the country as a whole, we have not begun to take Jesus Christ seriously. All this talk about the blessings of democracy is pure rot if we don't take care to Christianize democracy. With the passing weeks I feel less of a call to China, although as you know full well I would eagerly go if I felt that were the place God wanted us.

(5) The pastorate of some church. This has a real pull with me and is worthy of most serious and prayerful consideration. The one outstanding objection to it that comes to me at the moment is that it does not offer the maximum opportunity for dealing with the leaders of thought, unless one had a university or large city church, and of course I am not at all capable of filling such a place at this time. As I look over the situation in America the blackest cloud on the horizon is the attitude of the preachers. With clear consciences the great majority of them have deserted the way of Jesus and are following the way of the world. How can we expect the world to ever become really Christian until first of all the ministers become really Christian? So long as the preachers continue to preach a gospel of compromise and half-hearted devotion to the way of the cross, just so long will the mass of people continue to live in sin and to follow the desires of the flesh. We are living on the surface of life and drinking in the foam, and until the preachers begin to discover the real depths of Christianity I cannot see any hope of permanent progress. There is a great deal of mis-

guided optimism regarding the good that is coming out of this war. It is certain that much good is coming, but it cannot be permanent unless the church of Jesus Christ repents of its sins and begins to follow Him in real earnest. Of this I am absolutely certain. The Christian leaders are the key to the situation, and the ordinary pastorate does not seem to offer the maximum opportunity of reaching them. It may well be asked, who are we, that we feel ourselves qualified to lead the leaders? Beyond question, we are not qualified to lead. No one realized this any better than I do. We haven't begun to learn the ABC's of Christianity or of the fundamental principles of life. We are only in the kindergarten class - where Kirby, Jr., and little Mary will soon be, bless the God-given dearies. All of which leads me to the sixth and concluding alternative:

(6) Entering the University of Chicago or Columbia University for two or three years of the hardest work of our lives. The more I think of this the more I am convinced of its absolute necessity if we are ever to be able to assume a place of leadership in any large sense. It is the old, old story of the price of leadership. And certainly no one deserves the responsibility of leadership who is not willing to pay this price, whatever it may demand in years or in tireless study and work.

My reading and study with Mr. Eddy during the past two years have quite convinced me that I know very little about anything. And I see no chance of serious study save in a university, with access to a good library and with time for unhurried thought and study. In this age of reconstruction that is to follow the war there is going to be an unparalleled demand for Christian men who can think clearly and act wisely, and the ability to think clearly is not gained in a day. I believe that the opportunities of these two years have taught me the value of study and have in part at least prepared me for serious study. The problems of our generation are not going to be solved by beating the air and uttering words. Foundations must be laid upon which future generations may safely build.

As I think it over, I believe that we ought to set aside three years for continued and earnest study. You well know that in my undergraduate days I was too crowded with activities to really get down to business, and anyhow I did not know how to study then. I believe that if I gave undivided attention to real study for three years that I could get the Ph. D. degree, although the degree itself counts for little as compared with the benefits of the study itself. I would greatly prefer to attend the University of Chicago if this is at all possible, and I do not see anything to prevent it - the mere matter of finances! We managed to get along somehow before, and if it is the Lord's will we can do it again.

Not least of the advantages of this plan would be that it could easily be coupled with ministering to some church. Indeed, I would not consider it apart from a church. There is too much danger of becoming academic and of growing apart from the world if one devotes himself exclusively to university work. It would be a great combination, study through the week and the privilege of witnessing for the Master in the pulpit on Sunday. It ought to keep one well balanced. As for the danger of "losing my religion", which too often happens in postgraduate work, I am confident that I am sufficiently well grounded that I need have no fears here. By combining study and preaching I believe we would be able to do some little good as we go along and at the same time would be preparing ourselves for positions of leadership in the days of reconstruction.

Not least of the advantages would be the opportunity it would give you for further study and preparation. I am keeping constantly in mind what we decided ages and ages ago before we were married, that ours is to be a partnership affair and not a one-horse show or two ~~one-horse~~ one-horse shows. We are in this thing together and can achieve the maximum results only when both of us are prepared. The opportunity it would afford you is no small item in this consideration.

At this great length I have set forth my present feelings in the matter. I do not feel that I have yet received full leading from Him and we must set ourselves resolutely to prayer that we may not make any mistake in this exceedingly important decision. I verily believe that He will lead us if we will only fully surrender ourselves to Him. How I do long for the time when we may fit to receive great power from Him! Power will come in proportion to our fitness to use it and we cannot be cleansed of sin and selfishness by ourselves. Only the Holy Spirit can do this for us and with new zeal we must pray for complete guidance. I want you to take plenty of time off by yourself to think and pray this thing through and then write me your own feelings in the matter. I shall certainly hope to be able to come by the southern route on the way to the coast and if so we will have a few hours together in which to talk and pray about it together. But we don't need to wait until we get together to pray about it. Distance is no separation in this regard.

In another letter that is not so long, I will tell you what I think of you and the little darlings. You may expect another letter within a day or two.

Ever lovingly yours,

Kirby

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 23, 1917.

Alma Dear:

During the weeks that have passed since we last talked about our work for the future, I have been thinking and praying about the whole question a good deal. The time has now come when we must come to at least a tentative decision, since I am sailing within a few weeks and we ought to know in a general way at least what the plans are for next year. The China campaign proper will end about the middle of May, at which time I will have completed my contract with Mr. Eddy. At present he plans to go from China to Russia and then to France. I am not clear as to whether he wants me to accompany him to Russia and France or whether I am to return direct from China. Of course, I would very much like to make the Russian trip, and I think the chances are in favor of it, since he is thinking of writing a book on Russia.

Now the question is, what are we going to do after the middle of May or the middle of September as the case may be? I take it that we are agreed that whatever choice we make must be made in view of two assumptions; first, our only desire is to find the will of God in the matter; second, we must take into account the sum total contribution of our lives, and not just the next few years only. In view of all this, I am faced with six alternatives, which I now give, in inverse order of their seeming importance to us:

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(2) To take up work as a state student secretary or to be attached to "Dad" Elliott's staff of student workers. I am not really considering this seriously since "Dad" himself so frankly said that he did not consider the student secretaryship a life work. I think we ought to think only in terms of life work now.

(3) To remain in Russia or France for war work during the duration of the war - perhaps one year and perhaps five. One important item seems to make this an impossibility, namely, the

stifling of my conscience or convictions on the question of the ethics of war. I do not see how I could possibly be justified in doing this. I was content to keep quiet during the time I was there before, but to deliberately do this for the duration of the war would seem treachery to all that I hold to be fundamental in Christianity. There is a further consideration that makes me think I ought not to again take up war work, namely, the fact that as highly Christlike and as greatly needed^{as} is this work with the soldiers, it is only rescue or relief work and does not deal with the underlying causes of all this horror. Then too there are going to be a sufficient number of men eager to do this work who do not seem to realize the importance of laying foundations which will prevent such a disaster ever again troubling the world. I am quite sure that the really great contribution to be made in these days is not simply the dealing with the fruits of war. This laying of foundations and seeking to do the preventive work cannot be carried on in connection with the army. Therefore, as highly as I regard the work of the Association with the troops, as deeply as it is needed and as thoroughly Christian^{as} it is, I do not feel called to enter upon it, at the cost of my convictions and the prevention of the more fundamental work.

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(5) The pastorate of some church. This has a real pull with me and is worthy of most serious and prayerful consideration. The one outstanding objection to it that comes to me at the moment is that it does not offer the maximum opportunity for dealing with the leaders of thought, unless one had a university or large city church, and of course I am not at all capable of filling such a place at this time. As I look over the situation in America the blackest cloud on the horizon is the attitude of the preachers. With clear consciences the great majority of them have deserted the way of Jesus and are following the way of the world. How can we expect the world to ever become really Christian until first of all the ministers become really Christian? So long as the preachers continue to preach a gospel of compromise and half-hearted devotion to the way of the cross, just so long will the mass of people continue to live in sin and to follow the desires of the flesh. We are living on the surface of life and drinking in the foam, and until the preachers begin to discover the real depths of Christianity I cannot see any hope of permanent progress. There is a great deal of mis-

guided optimism regarding the good that is coming out of this war. It is certain that much good is coming, but it cannot be permanent unless the church of Jesus Christ repents of its sins and begins to follow Him in real earnest. Of this I am absolutely certain. The Christian leaders are the key to the situation, and the ordinary pastorate does not seem to offer the maximum opportunity of reaching them. It may well be asked, who are we, that we feel ourselves qualified to lead the leaders? Beyond question, we are not qualified to lead. No one realized this any better than I do. We haven't begun to learn the ABC's of Christianity or of the fundamental principles of life. We are only in the kindergarten class - where Kirby, Jr., and little Mary will soon be, bless the God-given dearies. All of which leads me to the sixth and concluding alternative:

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My reading and study with Mr. Eddy during the past two years have quite convinced me that I know very little about anything. And I see no chance of serious study save in a university, with access to a good library and with time for unhurried thought and study. In this age of reconstruction that is to follow the war there is going to be an unparalleled demand for Christian men who can think clearly and act wisely, and the ability to think clearly is not gained in a day. I believe that the opportunities of these two years have taught me the value of study and have in part at least prepared me for serious study. The problems of our generation are not going to be solved by beating the air and uttering words. Foundations must be laid upon which future generations may safely build.

As I think it over, I believe that we ought to set aside three years for continued and earnest study. You well know that in my undergraduate days I was too crowded with activities to really get down to business, and anyhow I did not know how to study then. I believe that if I gave undivided attention to real study for three years that I could get the Ph. D. degree, although the degree itself counts for little as compared with the benefits of the study itself. I would greatly prefer to attend the University of Chicago if this is at all possible, and I do not see anything to prevent it - the mere matter of finances! We managed to get along somehow before, and if it is the Lord's will we can do it again.

Not least of the advantages of this plan would be that it could easily be coupled with ministering to some church. Indeed, I would not consider it apart from a church. There is too much danger of becoming academic and of growing apart from the world if one devotes himself exclusively to university work. It would be a great combination, study through the week and the privilege of witnessing for the Master in the pulpit on Sunday. It ought to keep one well balanced. As for the danger of "losing my religion", which too often happens in postgraduate work, I am confident that I am sufficiently well grounded that I need have no fears here. By combining study and preaching I believe we would be able to do some little good as we go along and at the same time would be preparing ourselves for positions of leadership in the days of reconstruction.

Not least of the advantages would be the opportunity it would give you for further study and preparation. I am keeping constantly in mind what we decided ages and ages ago before we were married, that ours is to be a partnership affair and not a one-horse show or two ~~xxxxxx~~ one-horse shows. We are in this thing together and can achieve the maximum results only when both of us are prepared. The opportunity it would afford you is no small item in this consideration.

At this great length I have set forth my present feelings in the matter. I do not feel that I have yet received full leading from Him and we must set ourselves resolutely to prayer that we may not make any mistake in this exceedingly important decision. I verily believe that He will lead us if we will only fully surrender ourselves to Him. How I do long for the time when we may fit to receive great power from Him! Power will come in proportion to our fitness to use it and we cannot be cleansed of sin and selfishness by ourselves. Only the Holy Spirit can do this for us and with new zeal we must pray for complete guidance. I want you to take plenty of time off by yourself to think and pray this thing through and then write me your own feelings in the matter. I shall certainly hope to be able to come by the southern route on the way to the coast and if so we will have a few hours together in which to talk and pray about it together. But we don't need to wait until we get together to pray about it. Distance is no separation in this regard.

In another letter that is not so long, I will tell you what I think of you and the little darlings. You may expect another letter within a day or two.

Ever lovingly yours,

Kirby



Nov. 24, 1917.

My dearest Sweetheart:

I have good news for you. I talked with Mr. Eddy today about coming by Houston on the way to the coast and he was quite willing indeed, so you may count upon my appearing on the scenes sometime between the 5th and 10th of January. I shall probably be able to spend two or three days there and I can hardly hold myself I am so tickled over the prospects. I would be able to come sooner only he is planning to write another book between now and time of sailing, which will keep me unusually busy. The book will cover the field of the ethics of war and international relations. It now looks as though he will commit himself on the wrong side of the fence, as I see it. He has just finishing ready a copy of my revised manuscript and we are to talk it over within a few days. He said that he thought it was greatly strengthened and that it was the strongest thing on that side of the subject that he had seen anywhere. We must continue to pray that he be guided into the truth and that we likewise receive guidance.

We also talked with reference to the plans for the future. He is eager have me continue on with him through the trip to Russia and France, if I so desire, and of course it appeals to me tremendously. He will certainly go to Russia on this trip if it is at all possible for anyone to get in. He wants to write a book on Russia and to get facts for use in the war work campaign for next year, so it is a fairly safe bet that he goes that way this time. I talked with him also about the possibility of my doing further university work and he seemed to think the idea a good one, if we could finance it. In addition to preaching on Sunday, I believe that I could secure dates on Friday or Monday night to lecture on Russia, China, Japan or the work in the war zone, which might add a few shekels to the coffers. I am confident that if it is the will of God that we continue our preparation, the finances can be worked out. I am most eager to get your thought upon the whole question.

For mother's love and care and guidance in those critical days when life habits were being formed and for her continued love and prayers through the years, we can never be sufficiently thankful. And words fail me also when I attempt to say how much your love and companionship has meant to me since we first loved each other. It helps me to be more thankful when I look about me and see so many, many men who have not the faintest idea what true love means and who have never been blessed with the love of a noble woman, or when I see those men who live altogether on the lower plane and do not appreciate the love of a good woman even when it has been granted to them. Again and again the thought comes to me that no man is worthy of ~~the~~ *love of a* noble Christian wife. Along with the love of God and of mother, it passes all understanding. And the dear little darlings, how I do thank God for them and pray that we may be given guidance as we train them for service in His Kingdom. What a very, very happy world it is, in spite of sin and suffering, and how glad I am that we can have some little share in making it brighter and happier through His power.

My thoughts and prayers are with you today and all days and from the bottom of my heart I thank God for you and the dear babies and for all other blessings.

Most lovingly your husband,

Kirby

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 24, 1917.

My dear Mother:

I was so glad to get your letter and the one from Perry yesterday. I think this was about the finest letter I ever got from Perry and it did me a world of good. I am so glad that he came out well with his crop and that he is going to save his money. He made more money clear this year than I did, by a good long shot.

I enclose copies of two long letters that I have just written to Alma regarding our future plans. I send the copies in order to save time in rewriting them, as you will be keenly interested in the whole of each. I shall be glad to get your idea about the whole proposition.

Mrs. Eddy was operated on a day or two ago for appendicitis and is doing nicely indeed. You will be glad to know that I am going to go by Houston on the way to the coast and that I will get two or three days with the dearies. Wish you could be with us there.

Am feeling fine and dandy and getting a little work done occasionally. All goes well with me. With much love to all of you,

Most affectionately yours,

Kirby

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 24, 1917.

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We also talked with reference to the plans for the future. He is eager have me continue on with him through the trip to Russia and France, if I so desire, and of course it appeals to me tremendously. He will certainly go to Russia on this trip if it is at all possible for anyone to get in. He wants to write a book on Russia and to get facts for use in the war work campaign for next year, so it is a fairly safe bet that he goes that way this time. I talked with him also about the possibility of my doing further university work and he seemed to think the idea a good one, if we could finance it. In addition to preaching on Sunday, I believe that I could secure dates on Friday or Monday night to lecture on Russia, China, Japan or the work in the war zone, which might add a few shekels to the coffers. I am confident that if it is the will of God that we continue our preparation, the finances can be worked out. I am most eager to get your thought upon the whole question.

I enclose a corking good letter from Perry. He also sent a check for \$10 without mentioning it. Guess that isn't going some! I shall spend the ten on a Christmas present for him, but I was mighty glad to see that he is beginning to think of his obligations. It is a good sign.

I am to preach for Brother Gordon in Brooklyn tomorrow night. I am looking forward with greatest eagerness to seeing you dearies before very long now. Won't we have a happy time of it!

Most faithfully yours,

Kirby

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Thanksgiving Day, 1917.

Dearest Mother:

Naturally all of our thoughts turn to thanksgiving on this day. Surely the world has much, very much to be thankful for, in spite of the intense suffering and misery abroad in the lands. All of us ought to rejoice and thank God for the wonderful spirit of unselfishness and sacrificial devotion to a noble cause which is abroad in the earth. We have cause for gratitude in that even out of man's awful blunder and sin God is able to bring great and lasting good for mankind, that out of even this horrible nightmare we call war shall come a new freedom and new opportunities for all races. Most of all, we ought to thank God for the increasing realization that is coming to men that war and physical force cannot achieve the high ideals of life, but that only through the spirit manifested by Jesus Christ on Calvary is there hope for the redemption of the sons of men. I am confident that in the days following the war, when we have come to our senses and when we begin to think calmly and clearly, there is going to be a wholesale condemnation of the method of war and a new determination to follow the way of the cross.

I pray God daily that we may be purged of sin, of selfishness, of stubbornness, of prejudice and of everything that keeps us from finding Him and His way of life. These are wonderful days in which to live and we have had most unusual privileges. May we be so filled with His spirit that we shall be worthy in some little way at least to help others to find His way of life.

Beyond power of expression, I am thankful that we know in some feeble way at least the power of the living Christ and that we know something of the blessedness of communion with Him. For the vision of a life of service in His Kingdom, I am profoundly grateful. I do pray that increasingly we may be able to say, "For me to live is Christ".

For your wonderful love and that of dear Alma, I am profoundly thankful. No one can ever know how much this love has meant and is meaning to me. Few, very few men are so blessed. And the dear little darlings, how I do thank God for them and pray that we may be given guidance as we train them for service in His Kingdom.

My thoughts and prayers are with you today and all days and from the bottom of my heart I thank God for you and all other blessings.

Most lovingly your son,

Kirby

The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Thanksgiving Day, 1917.

My own Alma Darling:

In all probability this is the saddest Thanksgiving day that the world has ever known. It is to be doubted if ever in all history there has been a greater piling up of human suffering and misery than is true today. And yet, the world has much, very much to be thankful for today. Surely all of us ought to rejoice and thank God for the wonderful spirit of unselfishness and sacrificial devotion to a noble cause which is abroad in all of the lands. We have cause for gratitude in that even out of man's awful blunder and sin God is bringing and will continue to bring great and lasting good for mankind, that out of even this horrible nightmare we call war shall come a new freedom and new opportunities for all races. Most of all, we ought to thank God for the increasing realization that coming to men that war and physical force cannot achieve the high ideals of life, but that only through the spirit manifested by Jesus Christ on Calvary is there hope for the redemption of the sons of men. I am confident that in the days following the war, when we have come to our senses and when we begin to think calmly and clearly, there is going to be a wholesale condemnation of the method of war and a new determination to take Jesus Christ seriously and rely upon His way of life to overcome oppression and injustice.

Much, very much more than any of us realize, depends upon the attitude of the Church in the coming decade. If it continues to sanction and to use the weapons of Satan, it will continue to be powerless to right the wrongs of mankind. But if by the grace of God it can see wherein it has sinned in sanctioning this colossal blunder against the way of the cross, and if it shows genuine penitence and really stakes everything upon the power of the cross as a way of life, none of us have any idea of the great response ^{that will come} to its supreme challenge to follow Jesus, without regard to consequences.

I pray God daily that we may be purged of sin, of selfishness, of stubbornness, of prejudice and of everything that keeps us from finding Him and His way of life. These are wonderful days in which to live and we have had most unusual privileges. May we be so filled with His spirit that we shall be worthy in some little way at least to help others to find His way of life.

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The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations

124 East 28th Street, New York.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Nov. 27, 1917.

My dear old Perry Boy:

Your last letter did me more good than a dose of medicine, even though I did not need the medicine. I believe it was the best letter you ever wrote to me and I want to thank you for it. I am so glad that you came out well with your crop. My ~~advice~~ still is that you invest the \$700 in a piece of land. You will never regret it, I am sure.

Now with regard to the Navy, I understand that no volunteers will be accepted after the call on Dec. 15th, so if you want to get into the navy you have got to act quickly. The first thing I would do is to have some good doctor give a thorough examination and see whether you are fit for the draft, and if so I would not lose any time in getting into the navy, as it is undoubtedly better than the army. Keep your eyes ^{open} when you go to the navy recruiting officer and don't let them sign you up for four or seven years - what you want is "duration of the war".

It is kind of you to say that you would be willing to let me have the \$500. I much prefer that you invest it, but if you do not care to do this, I will put it into something myself.

All goes well with me, and I am eagerly looking forward to see ^{my} the dearies early in January on my way to the coast. With much love to all of you,

Ever affectionately yours,

Kirby

Postcard

11-29-17,



Pub. by S. H. Kress & Co.
Dear Mother: Just a word to
say I am writing tomorrow.
am doing personal work in
a meeting room and just
put things off. If Perry is
going to enlist in navy
will have to do so by 15th of
December as that is last
day set to accept enlistments.
much love. Alma.

Mrs. Isabelle Murray,
Route B. Box 53,
Logan, Okla.

17872

Hartford Theological Seminary
Hartford, Connecticut

29th Nov. '17.

Dear Mr. Page,

Your note of Nov. 22 and
the treatise on "The Method of War",
that accompanied it, gave me a
great deal of pleasure. Max has told
me about you and I have been
looking forward to meeting you
some day. Now that I know you
— by way of your essay, — I hope
that that day will not be far off.
I certainly appreciate the privilege
of reading your paper on the "Method
of War". I feel as proud as the nurse
to whom mother grants the privilege
of having a hand in the "clipping"
of her baby. Sometimes nurses are
not as lovingly concerned about
their charge as is the mother, but you
may rest assured, Mr. Page, that this
one is. I know you will remember it

✓
as you watch me "cliff" and show me
where I am wrong.

Somewhere in the beginning
of your treatise, which up to page 19
is admirable from every point of view,
you drew a clear distinction between
the ideals and the method of war, and
from there on your treatise shows,
that ^{if} the method of war is distinct
from the ideal or ideals of war, it
(the method) cannot be treated out
of and apart from the ideals of war.
The same holds true of the method of
Christ. It cannot be treated except
in connection with the ideals of
Christ.

These ideals in both cases are
a fact and need therefore not be
posited. But as for our conception of
them, it must either be described or
"posited". No doubt if we were to
treat of the "ideals" of War, we would
have to describe it, but, speaking as

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you do, of the ideals of war only in connection with the method of war, we need but posit our conception of them. We may conceive of Christ's ideals and the ideals of war (the latter as represented by the Jews of Jesus' time, the modern Christian, the medieval and modern Church,) as being either identical or different. Now I am sure that if you were to write on the "Ideals" of war, you and I with you, would conceive of them as being different from those which Jesus held. But in treating of the method of war, to my and, no doubt to your own astonishment, you conceive of the ideals of war as being the same as Jesus' ideals.

Thus just as in the case of the Method of war, you posit that it is different from the method of Christ, so in that of the ideals of war, you posit that they are identical with those of Christ. While (you ^{are} ⁱⁿ treating you ^{are} faithful to your

4 ^{III} hypothesis regarding the two methods, from the beginning to the very end, you contradict here and there your hypothesis regarding the ideal or end. This you do either by suggesting or implying a difference between Christ's ideals and those of Jews, modern Christians and Church respectively, or by actually maintaining and expressing it. May I briefly mention the instances which contradict your hypothesis regarding the ideals:

They are: page 23 first line a to the end of § 2 b.

page 24 last para. a - b

" 28 " " a - b pg 29.

" 31 § two a - b and c-d

" 32 last para. a - page 33, para. two b.

" 46 § two a - b and § 3 a-b

In order to be consistent these sections ought to be omitted, for apart from them, you are consistent in identifying the ideals of war with those of Christ, sometimes interpreting the former in terms of the latter when you speak of them as moral freedom, salvation of

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all, redemption of the enemy etc., sometimes interpreting the latter in terms of the former, speaking of them as of political freedom, "salvation" of friends, country, humanity etc.

As for the proposition around which the discussion centers, stated with a view to the major premise regard. the methods and that regards. the ideals, it would be the following:

— The Jews of Israel time, ^{the} modern Christians and the modern Church on the one hand, and Jews on the other, in the pursuit of the same ideals or the same end, chose different methods. —

The ultimate purpose of the essay is to move the former to adopt the method of the latter, the immediate purpose however, is to furnish "grounds" on the basis of which such a "move" can be expected. (Is that right, Mr. Page?)

Now the ground which this treatise furnishes is the following:

Let us be loyal to Christ by adopting his method ^{because} it is as efficient as is the method of war and in cases it is more so!

If we state the purpose of the treatise in negative terms only, by saying that its aim is to move people to abandon the method of war, then the ground on which men are to do so, is its inadequacy for certain aspects of the end in view.

Neither of these grounds is compelling, wherefore people may read the essay without feeling obliged or moved to either abandon the method of war or adopt the method of Christ, in its stead.

I realise fully, Mr Page, that that is not at all what you wanted to accomplish neither qualitatively nor quantitatively, but unless I am very much mistaken, that is what you did accomplish. In fact, that is all you or anybody

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else can accomplish so long as
"Identity of Ideals" is chosen and
held on to as the major premise
regarding the ideals of Christ and
those of the war as such.

So far, my criticism has
been destructive for the most part,
and if I did not love the "hobe"
of your brain, I would stop right
here. But I do you see. I am very
anxious that just you, with your
capacity for thought and expression
and your variety of rich and valua-
ble experiences (forgive me for being
so motherly,) should give us Christians
a "reason" for our faith, in just such
a headline as this.

It is for these reasons as
these that I would humbly suggest
one or two things before I close.

What if you gave up your
major premise regarding the ideals

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or rather, what if you changed it by saying that Christ's conception of the ideal or end in view, whether it be thought and spoken of as the kingdom of God, redemption, salvation etc, was not the same as that of the Jews, the Christians and the Church respectively. No doubt, this premise would almost force you to give an exposition of the Ideals at stake, in view of which you would subsequently treat of the methods. Very likely the difference in ^{these} method rests back on a difference in their ideals or ends, as every one of those sections marked a - b, suggest and imply and often positively express. Why not find out whether that difference in method does not rest back there and spring from nothing else than a difference in ideals. (Are not Christ's ideals pre-eminently spiritual, whereas those of the Jews, the modern Christians, the Church

are pre-eminently material; those essential and indispensable for the welfare of man and the glory of God, those accidental and dispensable; or is not Christ's table of values Christo-centric while that of his followers of to-day is homo-centric? (all these questions are just tentative.)

I believe that it is in treating of the ideals of war in the fullest possible manner that we will find the grounds on the basis of which men must either abandon the method of war or abandon Christ. Those grounds are if I am not mistaken, first SIN, second SIN, and third SIN; sin of a definite kind and number in our relation to God; sin in our relation to man; and sin in our relation to the material universe. Such points as these would enter into and perhaps result from a discussion or treatise on the ideals of War, as compared with those of Christ. It is in such a treatise as this, that all these sections ^{of a} would receive their proper setting and pass

10 for what they are worth i.e. for a great deal, for they are all of striking nature.

If you agree with me in my estimate of the significance and value of a full exposition of the "ideal" in connection with a treatise ^(even if) on the method of war, I do wish that before publishing the essay, you would insert just such a treatise on the ideals, and in the light of it review and reconstruct the three sections entitled: I Jesus and the War; III The modern Christian and the War. IV. The Church and the War.

But if you do not think it best to do so, and intend to publish the essay as it is, then may I suggest that you insert that whole section on page 50a- b page 53 at X on page 36 under the general heading of "Practicability of the Way of the Cross". Do you not think

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it would be more telling there than where it is at present.

Moreover, in my humble opinion the paper would have a more effective ^{concluding} with line 1. on page 50, plus the concluding sentence on page 53 inserted after V on page 50.

Finally, I must ask you to forgive me for marking your paper with pencil and returning it to you not quite as fresh ^{looking} as you sent it to me. It's looks perhaps testify to the fact that I have read and re-read it. I do thank you for the privilege! Hope to read it again either before or after it is printed.

I too would love to have a talk with you personally on that whole vast topic of Christ and the War. If ever your work should take you to or near Hartford, I would appreciate it if you would arrange to spend some time with me. If N. Y. were a little nearer, I would ask you to come

and see me regarding the work and
time. As it is, I do hope to meet you
before you leave for China, at least.

Very sincerely yours,

Martha Tregli.